

proceed to enforce payment thereof; and the said benefit charge and any judgment or decree obtained as a result of default in payment thereof shall bear interest at the rate of one-half per centum per month from and after the time said benefit assessment or other charges are in default. The annual benefit assessment or other charges as above specified shall be a first lien upon the property against which they are assessed until paid, any statute of limitations to the contrary notwithstanding, subject only to prior State and County taxes. And if any property be sold for State or County taxes, or both, by the Treasurer of said County, and if after sale there be a surplus after all costs and expenses incident to such sale shall have been paid; then the said Commission upon proper petition to the Circuit Court for said County shall be allowed any balance from said surplus, and shall be a preferred lienor to the extent of its lien, and for the purpose of giving notice to the general public as to existing liens and charges against any property within any sub-district abutting upon any water or sewer main, the said Commission shall keep a public record of all names of owners of property, locations of said property, lot numbers when of record, and the amount of such benefit charges, water service charges or such other charges that may become liens from time to time. Said records shall be kept in the county seat of government and among the land records of Howard County, and the Clerk of the Circuit Court for said County shall furnish such space as may be necessary to keep and preserve such records, which, when published, in said public record, shall be legal notice of all existing liens within any sub-district. If any liens, benefit assessments or other charges remain unpaid for sixty days after becoming due, they may be collected by an action of assumpsit or by a bill in equity to enforce such liens, and any judgment or decree obtained, where the defendants have been served by summons or subpoena, or in any other manner provided by law, shall have the force and effect of a judgment in personam; and the Commission may sue, or file a bill in equity to enforce said liens against the owner of record at the time said levy was made, or the owner of record at the time said suit is filed or any owner of record between said dates, and publication thereon shall be notice to all persons having any interest in said property.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1945.

Approved April 5, 1945.